

LES GIRLS

BOYS WILL BE GIRLS

VOLUME 1 NUMBER 2

SHALEI —
QUEEN OF THE
UNIVERSE, 1980!

HIGH FASHION
MODELS —
THE SHOCKING
TRUTH!!!

TRANSSEXUAL
BLOCKBUSTER —
THE VERA AUDITIONS!

INSIDE THE
PLAZA SALOON

*Plus: Serena, Island
transsexual; A Guide to the
Art of Female Impersonation;
What's The Tea?; and much,
much more!*

AND INTRODUCING:
LES GIRLS' AMATEUR
PHOTO CONTEST —
THE MOST UNIQUE
EVER
STAGED!!!

\$6.00



EDITORIAL

MEDIA EXPOSURE

Welcome to our second edition of *Les Girls*. Our intention is not to lasciviously peek into the underground world of the female impersonator, but rather to present to you an ongoing and factual account of that world. The female impersonator is an entertainer, a man who assumes the role of a woman. Her art form is as old as the stage itself, and has witnessed incredible popularity throughout the history of the legitimate theater—from Elizabethan drama to the Chinese Opera. We in the United States have yet to fully accept the female impersonator as an artist. We tend to regard her as a bizarre member of a sideshow cast. But that attitude is changing as our tastes become more sophisticated and as we understand more of the art of illusion. A year or so ago, I was able to dramatize this very point on the Mike Douglas Show, a network daytime talk show. The producer of the show had approached my agent with the idea of planting me, dressed as an average American woman, in the audience. Special guests with Mike that day were to be Beverly and Vidal Sasoons, the famous hairstylists. The Sasoons were to take a woman from the audience and demonstrate their proficiency of make-up and hair styling. Of course, they chose me since I had been *planted* by the producer. Mike and the Sasoons did not realize or know that I was a female impersonator. Vidal



knew I was wearing a wig and asked me how long my hair was and if I had gotten a bad cut. I said, "Very short", tearing off my wig and revealing who I really was. The host, the Sasoons, the audience and the American television viewing public were astonished and delighted by my ruse. A lot of fun was had by all. But there were some important points made that day. We were able to demonstrate the proficiency of the art of female impersonation by fooling experts like the Sasoons. We were also able to gain national media recognition, not as freaks, but as real people who were capable of enjoying themselves as much as anyone

else. The Mike Douglas show, that day, allowed me to demonstrate much about the art of illusion, and show much about my character. It was a breakthrough of sorts. Those breakthroughs for the female impersonator will continue to come—through movies, television shows, documentaries and magazines such as *Les Girls*. Knowledge of who we are and what we do will bring that understanding. So stay with us and we'll get it done.

M. B. West

M. B. WEST
Editor

LES GIRLS

BOYS WILL BE GIRLS

VOLUME 1

NUMBER 2

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They're coming out and this month's entries are in! How you can enter and win big prizes and glory on the pages of Les Girls!

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What's The Tea?

What's happening? Or, as those in the know say, "What's the Tea?" A look into the world of *Les Girls* where there's never a dull moment. Below, for instance, is our own M.B. West doing Joel Grey. With him is Bobby Carroll, most recently seen in the hit show, "Boylesque" the Silver Slipper in Las Vegas.



Brandy Lee — beauty and soul

It is extremely rare when a performer combines both talent and looks, no matter what their art. Brandy Lee is just such an artist. Shown on the right, Brandy has traveled the circuit. A Hawaiian singer, she emerged in Florida as one of that state's top attractions. Brandy sings with a driving, soulful style reminiscent of popular Shirley Bassey. She is a transsexual who has gained fame quickly, and whose talents are applauded wherever she goes. Look for Brandy Lee to shine in the galaxy of superstars!



Vegas welcomes the La Carroussel three!

Las Vegas was privileged recently to receive three stars of La Carroussel from Paris, France. On the left are the beautiful impressionists Chou-Chou, Mona, and Michelle enjoying themselves in the desert playground. The trio performed during their stay, and all of Vegas hopes they will return soon.

The '82' Club — gone but not forgotten

From 1930 through the early 60's, the nightclub for female impressionism in the East was the '82' Club. Located in the Village, the '82' was the scene of some of the greatest stage extravaganzas in the field. Below is an example of the costuming and set decoration that went into their shows.



Holli White — sultry and sensuous

On the right is the beautiful and famous Holli White. Known throughout the world, Holli White has gained fame with her appearances in Paris, West Berlin and the United States. Holli's sultry beauty, combined with a unique and sensual stage presence have amazed and excited audiences wherever she appeared. Currently, Holli White is drawing packed houses in Hamburg, where she continues to exude her star qualities!



Cast at the '82' — birth of the legends

Below we see the cast assembled from the '82' Club in New York City. The doors have been closed now for nearly fifteen years, but the memories remain. . .The '82' was the spawning ground for some of the world's top female impressionists, giving birth to stars who went on to perform throughout the world. The '82' will always remain a landmark in showbiz history.

In with the 'in' crowd at the '82'!

The famous and the not so famous attended performances regularly at the old '82' Club in New York. The stage shows rivaled those on Broadway, and the timber of the performances were oftentimes far more risqué and socially bold than those which could be found on the legitimate stage. The '82' was fondly looked upon as a landmark of sophisticated entertainment, a club that equaled the best that Paris had to offer. When the elite met at the '82', it was considered a happening. The '82' Club—gone but not forgotten.



M.B.'S WILD, WILD WEST!

Our editor, M. B. West, presents a fashionable, sometimes outrageous potpourri of some finer moments in the life of a female impersonator. This is M.B.'s world, and you're invited to join in the fun!



Taming the wild West was never easy. M.B. shows how a little heaven laced with some striking leather does the trick!



M. B. Makes a glamorous showing at the Universal Ball in one of his celebrated originals. M.B. claims the number represents his age. . .



In 1979, M.B. dazzled the audience at the Universal Ball when he appeared in a number from his Julie London collection.



He cruises tough and he cruises alone! Cruising drag, Hollywood, 1980.



Seven veils does not a Salome make!
M.B. goes it solo!



The legends never die, they just change costumes.
Is this really what happened to Billy the Kid?

THE TRANSSEXUAL FILES:

HIGH FASHION MODELS - *THE SHOCKING TRUTH!*

Article by Steven Muller

Transsexualism is literally coming out of the closet, and in a manner that will shock and astound the world. During the coming months, watch for an incredible array of revelations about some of the world's most beautiful women, and what their fundamental sex really is. The news will most certainly rock the upper echelons of the high society, the fashion world and the entertainment community. The truth will serve to alter, in a dramatic way, our preconceived notions about femininity and beauty, about sexuality and illusion.

At this very moment, Hollywood is preparing a blockbuster motion picture, tentatively entitled "Vera", which will deal with a transsexual's climb to the dizzy heights of stardom in the music business. Scheduled to filming in early 1980 at Samuel Goldwyn Studios in Hollywood, California, the producers of "Vera" are at present conducting a nation-wide talent hunt for the lead role. Of course, casting such a delicate and shocking role will be no easy matter, since many of the talented and beautiful she-males within the industry are hesitant about revealing themselves to the general public. According to sources close to the production of Vera, the storyline and subject matter of the film is based on highly classified information concerning who is and who isn't in the high-powered worlds of fashion, entertainment and business. The film will most certainly be one of the most controversial of the last decade, and its theme will add that element of truth to the rumors which have been abounding in recent years throughout the realm of the beautiful people.





The stories of transsexuals who have made it big in modern society have been uttered in soft whispers, darkened corners of some of Paris' most select nightclubs, and throughout the underground world of the transsexual. The impact upon the people involved, should these truths ever be revealed, could very well spell disaster at this time for their careers. We at *Les Girls* have been able to uncover some of the most fascinating of these stories, and through private sources within the industries mentioned, been able to verify our information. Of course, real names cannot be mentioned at this time, but most of those whom we discuss should be recognizable to those aware of that echelon of society.

The industry which possesses the most transsexuals, men who have through surgical and hormonal treatments and completely altered their sexuality, is the world of high fashion. Its center is Paris, France, where the trends develop and the designers create the look that the rest of the world will wear. It is estimated at this time that easily one out of every three top fashion models working in Paris is a transsexual. An astounding figure when you consider that a majority of the world's women model themselves after this exclusive club of females.

One of these models, whom we shall call Celeste, works both sides of the Atlantic, appearing on the covers of some of the world's leading fashion magazines. She has gained fame and fortune for her nice but naughty looks, an appeal that emanates from her quite all-American face, her penetrating eyes and her semi-cruel mouth. Celeste is considered by most photographers and designers to possess one of the world's most fascinating countenances, as well as the perfect body for the display of high fashion.



Celeste, for obvious reasons, has never revealed her transsexualism. But those who hire her, and those who photograph her, are well aware of her sexuality. It is an unmentionable truth to which only the powerful are privy. If the secret ever emerged, chances are that Celeste would find herself in the midst of a storm which would most likely swallow her up into the depths of obscurity.

Like other beautiful women working within the fashion industry, however, Celeste has managed to live the life of a beautiful person. She vacations regularly with the jet-setters in the south of France, and attends all the best parties on either side of the Atlantic. Her name has appeared in print often, linking her romantically with certain film stars and men of means. To the average American girl, dreaming from the simple plains of Kansas of someday emulating the lifestyle and success of Celeste, the knowledge that this heroine of the fashion world was once a man would be devastating.

Paris being the center of fashion for the world has more than its share of models. Most remain nameless, and their fame is accrued only through recognition of their face, but rarely through knowledge of their name. Once in a while, a model does break through and gains world renown as a personality and a member of the jet-set. Once such model, whose name has become synonymous



with one of the world's leading houses of women's fashion, has achieved just such a fame. We shall refer to her as Mara.

To those who design, fit and show the line of clothes from this famous house, Mara is synonymous with their product. For the last decade, she has represented the look, the aura which they desire. Mara's secret is well kept within the walls of the designing kingdom, and her condition talked about more within those walls because of the bizarre state of her sexuality.

Mara is considered one of the world's most beautiful women. And yet, she still possesses male genitals. Mara has gone through the transformation, taking the hormones and other treatments to enhance her femaleness, but has stopped short of the ultimate commitment. Those who do know of Mara's condition speak very softly and very guardedly of her. To straight society, she would



be considered an ultimate freak, and word of her state cannot be leaked out. The fashion house with which Mara has come to be associated has made its name on creations designed for the ultimately sophisticated woman, and Mara's link with them is powerful.

As has been the case with Celeste, Mara has been able to live an outstanding and interesting life because of her success as a model. Her fame and wealth take to every part of the globe, and she is constantly a must on the invitation lists of the beautiful people. In the sexually sophisticated and

hedonistic world of the jet-setters, Mara's condition, remains a powerful rumor which is continually in circulation from one season to the next. Amongst the wealthy who follow the seasons, it is considered "in" to be aware of Mara's condition, and to accept it. Thus, she has achieved a remarkable position within that community, being protected not only from the fashion house for whom she works, but also feeling a strong protective umbrella from the rich and powerful who know and understand. This situation exists because those who control the industry realize that the world is not ready for the truth about Mara. That truth would be even more difficult to accept than the truth about Celeste. For the time being, anyway, the fashion industry feels compelled to close the doors on the realities of their industry to the general public. That position, however, is changing rapidly and in the near future, the revelations as well as the general acceptance of the sexuality of some of the world's leading fashion models should emerge from the fashion underground in Paris.

Fame and fortune for the transsexual is not just confined to the world of high fashion. It is being revealed, although slowly and with much guarded secrecy, that some of the world's best emerging entertainers are transsexuals. At present, for instance, there is a European singer who is taking the continent by storm. Her records have made it to

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THE VERA AUDITIONS:



Vera

A LOVE STORY OF THE 80'S

The search for "Vera" is on. In January of this year, Bob Barich, President of Western International Pictures, announced that auditions for the lead role in his upcoming film, "Vera", had begun. Budgeted at over \$10 million, "Vera" is billed as 'the love story of the 80's'. The film deals with love and transsexualism, with the story having been written by Henry Nemo. Locations for "Vera" will include Los Angeles, New York and Miami. What began as "the most unique casting campaign in the history of films" has turned into just that. From all across the country they have come, the professionals and the amateurs, seeking the most desired role in the history of transsexualism. Auditions were organized by Empress LaRey, L.A.'s director of the Universal Ball. In L.A. and New York, the hopefuls came, looking for that break of a lifetime.





The turnout for "Vera" auditions was fantastic. Such luminaries as our own Shalei, the beautiful Hispanic, Rocio, the scintillating Andrea Nicole and the ever-gorgeous Amanda Winters put their talents on the line for the producers of "Vera". The film industry has rarely seen such a response, one that equals the famous search for Scarlett O'Hara. The stars have come out for "Vera".







There have been few films that have been able to garner the publicity of "Vera" prior to its production. The subject matter, being as controversial and fascinating as it is, plus the incredible number of transsexuals who auditioned for the film give it the look of a 'happening' within the industry. The star of "Vera" will most certainly become an overnight sensation, our first transsexual star!

THE CORONATION

Queen of the Universe. She is reigning nobility of the Universal Ball. Staged each year by Empress La Rey. The Queen is selected on the basis of beauty, theme and costume. The Ball is held annually at the Mayflower Hotel in Inglewood, California, and has been a rousing success for the last ten years. 1980—Queen Shalei (pictured here) with King Brian Matthews.



LES
GIRLS'
CHOICE -
OUR LADY OF THE 80's

SHALEI
AT THE
UNIVERSAL
BALL





Below, 1979's Queen Causha Lee, honored to be crowning 1980's winner. Right and left, a little parody by our own M.B. West. Everyone participating in the contest must represent a state or a country. M.B. tried for California, but discovered the golden state to be without a state fruit. He went for the jugular and chose Florida, the land of oranges and Anita Bryant. On stage, kneeling to a Marine Corps and recording of "Battle Hymn of the Republic", and dressed, of course, as the lovable Anita. M.B. received the loudest decibel count of boos ever recorded. But the crowd soon turned to cheers and applause when M.B. was leveled by, you guessed it, a cream pie. M.B. was the first contestant in this great event ever to receive boos and applause within one minute of the other. As always, the Universal Ball was a hit with everyone. The competition is fierce, and the ballroom ripe with beauty and grace. But as M.B. so well demonstrated, the Universal Ball is wide open for good clean fun and a little social satire.





On the left is M.B. once again attending the Ball, this time as a combo Dolly Parton-Dallas Cowgirl. Below and to the left is Amanda Winters, one of the star attractions at L.A.'s Queen Mary nightclub. Amanda entered as Miss Austria. Directly below is Monica from the Plaza Saloon, also in Los Angeles. Monica entered as Miss Puerto Rico, and delighted the audiences with her beauty and costume. The impressionists who participate in the Universal Ball are considered to be amongst the finest in the world. The event draws talent from all over the United States, and Empress LaRey has turned the annual event into one of the highlights of the social season. Talent and beauty are two of the primary prerequisites for coronation as Queen, and this year, the winner was as gorgeous and talented as they come. We are proud to feature her on the following pages.







AND NOW...

QUEEN SHALEI

Queen of the Universal Ball, Shalei. A mystical beauty from the Hawaiian Islands, Shalei has emerged as one of the true superstars in the world of female impressionists. Her act features a wide variety of Polynesian dances, tributes to a culture which she knows and loves. Shalei's coronation at the 1980 Universal Ball was one of the highlights of her career. With her talent, beauty and incredible stage presence, it is certain that the aura of royalty will remain with Shalei long after she crowns 1981's Queen!

SHALEI

**A performer
whose beauty
and talent
have made her a
true superstar!**

Shalei is high fashion—striking beauty combined with an earthy sensuality. She exudes an erotic quality on stage that never fails to excite and thrill her audiences. She has mastered the timing and the subtle moves of the striptease, and combine that with an artistic flair for the fantasy. In her private life, Shalei lives the life of an artist. In all of her pursuits, she deals with fantasy, and the inner life. Most recently, Shalei was honored as one of the finalists for the role of “Vera”, and that served to verify what everyone already knows. Shalei is a star on the rise, destined for great things!









the top of the charts, and there are plans to market her soon in the United States. She is, unbeknownst to her fans, a transsexual.

Young and beautiful, this singer who we shall call Marlena, has a history that would call Federico Fellini to attention. Born of wealthy parents in France, Marlena as a young boy became the lover of one of the world's greatest living painters. This artist, known for his bizarre work, has long possessed a reputation for the outrageous and the novel. He first met Marlena as a model, and there are now two extremely surrealistic paintings of Marlena as a boy on the European marketplace. It was this



artist who financed Marlena's conversion into a complete female, the operation taking place at one of the world's most exclusive hospitals located in Switzerland. The affair between the painter and Marlena was one of the Continent's hottest gossip items for nearly two years. And when she left him to seek a career as a pop singer, all of Europe knew.

Marlena's contacts within the recording industry were well-established, and she had no trouble launching her career. The further she traveled up in the business, the farther away from the truth of her origin she got. As her popularity increased, she became known simply as Marlena, and not as the boy whom the famed painter had helped to cross over.

Since her arrival at the top, Marlena has found herself one of Europe's top singers, as well as sex-symbols. Young girls throughout the continent model themselves after her, and college boys hang large posters of her in provocative poses on their dormitory walls. None would ever guess that this gorgeous creature with the sexy, well-trained voice was once a man.

The latest on Marlena from Europe is that she is dating one of the world's most eligible bachelors, a member of royalty who has achieved a reputation as one of the world's leading jet-setters and playboys. Those who are aware of Marlena's sexuality wonder whether her young man is also in the know or whether he has walked unknowingly into a situation that once revealed, might cause a shattering awakening. Nevertheless, the affair is considered to be one of the hottest going at the moment, and it is written about extensively in the gossip press throughout the world.

The transsexual revolution is not just limited to the European continent, although it is more prevalent there due to that societies' willingness to accept alternate forms of sexual expression. America, long considered a bastion of provincialism, is moving quickly toward the sophisticated status of Europe. And in the last half a decade, Americans have come to accept the idea that a man is capable of turning himself into a woman and, that a transsexual is fully able to present herself as being as femininely beautiful as a "natural" woman.

Still, society is a long way from open acceptance of a transsexual who has gained fame as a woman. Renee Richards, the famous tennis star, has been able to make the transition without much loss of popularity due to the fact that she allowed herself to be exposed from the beginning. Richards' was accepted also because she was participating in a sport, long thought to be in the bastion of males, and thus did not cause an upheaval in ideals of feminine beauty. The fashion models and sexy pop singers would find it much more difficult to realize that same acceptance, since their success has been based in large part on their sexual attractiveness and their image as women.

In the United States at this time there is an emerging rock group which has found incredible success mainly because of its beautiful lead singer. This group has made the journey through the underground of rock, beginning in New York City, and is now being accepted and shown by network television. Those within the music world who would know claim that this gorgeous lead singer is actually a transsexual.

We shall call her Susie. She is a brilliant vocalist with a downbeat, sultry style. She radiates sexuality, and does for male rock fans what Presley once did for the young females. The story behind Susie's success reads like something out of a Madison Avenue executive's cynical five-year plan to take over the world.

Susie was formerly a male rock'n'roll singer going nowhere. She had made the rounds of various bands, and had found it necessary to resort to female impersonation in a New York City bathhouse in order to make a living. This is where she was discovered by her present manager, then an advertising executive whose accounts included one of America's top recording labels.

It was this executive who convinced Susie to perfect her drag image, and to establish a band around her. As she toured through small towns across America, Susie began to realize that her true nature was feminine. Her singing improved, and she became more comfortable with herself. Band members noted that after performances, their lead singer would not change into her male self, but would remain dressed as 'Susie'. Psychologically, the adoration and applause that she was receiving as Susie became difficult to let go of. She loved it. It had been after all, her lifelong dream to be the center of adulation, both on and off the stage.

Susie approached her manager with the idea of a sex-change operation. At first, the manager was shocked. But slowly, the financial potential of such a move began to dawn on him. He offered to pay for the operation on the guarantee that within five years after Susie's first hit recording, he would be able to reveal who she really was. Since the normal life-span of a rock group is four and one half years, the manager felt that by shocking the world with the truth about Susie, he would be able to extend their money-making potential at least another two to three years.

Susie agreed to the plan, and became the woman who is today taking the nation by storm. The five year plan has begun, since a number of her recordings have made it to the top of the lists. As far as we know, only her manager, her fellow band members and a select group of insiders know the real circumstances behind Susie's climb to fame. And they won't talk because of the huge profit potential that she has created. Look for the year 1984 as the moment that Susie reveals the truth about herself, and the year that she emerges as one of the most sought-after singers in the history of music.

Filmmakers have always been fascinated with the concept of transsexualism. The camera is a probing eye, one which reveals secrets of the soul not available to the naked eye. One such filmmaker, working in the United States, has made a career out of using three transsexuals in three of his last five movies. Although he does not publicize the fact, the industry is well-aware of the truth, and it is one of the reasons why these three transsexuals are rarely, if ever, given roles in other films.

The roles which these transsexuals have played have consistently dealt with themes of women at war with their own sexuality, and at war with their natures. They have not been popular successes because of their intellectual natures, but they have achieved critical acclaim. To watch these women on the screen, aware of their situation, is a remarkable experience. The camera reveals nothing, only the true beauty of their feminine naturalness, and the emotional complexity of their characters. They are all brilliant actresses, dis-

ciplined and able to convey meanings and emotions with incredible success. The director has privately praised the transsexual actresses for their abilities, and adds that it is because they have moved across the line that they are able to deal with roles that women would find difficult, if not impossible. He goes on to state that the transsexual actress is the next logical step from the male actors who throughout their careers have given brilliant performances as women. It is his belief that a new and brilliant era of acting will arrive when the transsexual is allowed to openly demonstrate her acting abilities.

That era may not be far away. With the \$10 million production of "Vera" due for release sometime this year, and the impact which it is bound to have, the notion of the transsexual achieving acclaim and stardom in the world of women will be exposed to the general public. The revelations will begin coming, and the shock at first should be tremendous. An upheaval in sexual stereotypes will most likely sweep the



world, and society should find itself effected to the extreme. The 1980's should prove to be the decade of the transsexual as the truth about some of the biggest names in fashion, music and films is told.



A GUIDE TO FEMALE

Article by Henri Vadim

Until now, professional impersonators have never revealed the fact that cosmetic surgery is the means by which many of them look like they do today! If you decide to have any surgical adjustment done with your features, be very select in choosing your doctor or specialist. Remember, ALWAYS, you are dealing with the future of your face, and getting a bargain is not the ultimate goal.

Once you have selected a surgeon in whom you feel confident, relax and let him do his work without too much interference from your own anxiety and apprehension. Basically, this is exactly what you can expect: Ear flattening (Otoplasty)—a tiny incision is made behind the ear. Then the surgeon removes excess cartilage, tightens the skin correspondingly and stitches it up. The ear is bandaged flat against the head. Healing takes approximately 2 weeks, and even though the bandages must remain during most of this time, bed rest is seldom necessary after the first 24 hours. Because this is one of the simplest of cosmetic operations the fee is usually around \$800.00 to \$900.00, depending of course on the surgeon. Most hair styles cover the ears however, so having ears that protrude should not be too large of a problem.

Nose fixing (Rhinoplasty) — surgeons will usually have you “try on” several various types of noses to see which is most becoming. This can be done by superimposing photographs of various noses upon a photo of your own face by lifelike sketches with the new nose drawn in, or by sculpturing the proposed features in clay. When both of you have decided upon a shape, the operation begins.

To reshape the nose, a surgeon works from inside to chisel away excess bone, and remove superfluous tissue and cartilage. There is no scarring. Recuperation periods are relatively short, sometimes as little as two weeks. “Black eyes,” the traditional result of nose fixing operations, fade

IMPERSONATION

fairly rapidly, and by the time all the bandages have come off, you're free to go about with a minimum of redness and puffiness.

This operation costs \$900.00 and up, depending on the amount of work that needs to be done.

Face lifting (Rhytidectomy) — Face lifting to diminish or erase wrinkles around the eyes and mouth, across the cheeks and under. The chin is usually done in one operation, but there are some surgeons who prefer to divide the face and work on one section at a time. About 3 hours is required for the operation.

After the local anesthetic, the surgeon makes an incision, starting on either side of the forehead, beyond the hairline, continuing down the side of the face, rounding the ear in front and curving up behind it to end in the scalp. Then he begins smoothing the skin out towards the hairline, eliminating as many folds and creases as possible, without giving the face a taut or drawn look. When all superfluous skin has been removed, the surgeon stitches the incisions and applies bandages. Healing takes three weeks or more and the two delicate scars that are almost completely hidden by the hair and ears will fade gradually into oblivion. Because facelifting is more complex than other types of cosmetic surgery and requires postoperative care, it costs in the neighborhood of one to two thousand dollars. The average face-lifting job lasts only about four to seven years, and rarely holds up more than ten years. Then it has to be repeated all over again.

Dermabrasion — Skin planing by dermabrasion is an accepted and trusted method of erasing scars, pits, and in some cases wrinkles from the skin. Although total improvement is infrequent, removal of 60% to 80% of existing scars is not unusual, which makes for a very promising picture. In addition, dermabrasion may be repeated if necessary, with even greater success the second time. The procedure is this: The face is anesthetized locally, or "frozen" and the uneven outer layers of the skin removed by means of a rotary-driven wire brush or abrasive wheel.



After it has covered the complete area to be planed, dressings or bandages are applied which may be removed after 24 hours. Complete healing usually takes place within two weeks, but continued redness must be expected for a longer period of time. This entire procedure can be done without hospitalization, and requires little postoperative care and seldom results in complications.

Blepharoplasty — is an operation to remove the bags under the eyes. Heavy pouches are caused by a slow weakening of the membranes that hold the fatty tissues within the eye sockets that cushion and support the eyeballs. When the membranes weaken and break, the fatty tissues slowly begin to push forward and a bag develops beneath each eye. To correct baggy pouches, an incision is made beneath the lower lashes where the excess fat is removed. The tiny scar that remains is hardly noticeable and appears to be a normal wrinkle of the lower eyelid. This operation is rather simple, and the healing time is about a week. The cost is from around \$50.00 and up.

Breast-plasty — This operation to enlarge the



There are many methods of hair removal available in today's marketplace. Electrolysis works especially well for the lips and the chin.

breasts is still in its experimental stage. (However, the professional female impersonator never uses this operation or uses female hormones to increase them, but instead uses an artificial means mentioned elsewhere.)

In breast-plasty, the surgeon inserts a foreign material such as plastic or silicone implants around the breasts to fill them out. Impersonators who have had this type of operation or one similar to it, have had very unsatisfactory results (in many cases it has caused breast tumors) and I strongly advise against it.

The operation itself is a highly individual one, therefore healing time and fees depend completely

upon the circumstances in each case. It is usually an expensive operation, about \$500.00 and up, and the chest area and the breasts are sore about a year after the operation. Usually the breasts are hard and have a tendency to sag in about two years time, as the skin becomes quite stretched.

Female hormones — This is perhaps the most popular form of making the breasts large, and it is widely being used today. There are two basic ways of taking them, pills and by injections. Pills are



Although breast implants have received much attention, the most popular means for enlarging breasts are hormones.

generally first used; then the person goes to the advanced stage of having injections. The hormones have many side effects, however, usually making the individual who takes them nervous and grouchy, causes moods of depression, and the breasts become very sore. It also makes fatty tissue and weight increase is noticed. When a person stops taking hormones they deflate to their original size. Usually a doctor suggests hormones for a person who contemplates having implants put in, as it does stretch the skin some, and it makes the skin somewhat more flexible. The hormones make the breasts rather hard, however, but not as hard as the implants.

Hair removal — This is very necessary to female impersonators and the following are many methods of how it can be done. Before we begin one word of caution: Snip hairs on moles or birthmarks at skin level. Do not tweeze, shave, or use any other method of depilation.

METHOD 1: Abrasion — This method should be limited to the arms and legs only. For although it is effective, it can prove to be rough on the skin. You use a pumice stone, dry, on thoroughly dry skin, or lather up with soap and water and rub

the stone in a circular motion on the area to be defuzzed. Hair disappears by friction. Afterwards, rinse the suds off and smooth on plenty of hand lotion to soothe the skin. By using this method every day, you can prevent hair from appearing above the skin. Otherwise regrowth is immediate.

METHOD 2: Bleaching — This method is good for lightening hair on arms and legs if the growth is fairly sparse. If you do it yourself, remember to use 20 volume peroxide (not weaker, medicinal kind that is sold for sterilizing cuts and scratches). Never, never use a bleach on eyebrows or eyelashes. No one needs blonde eyelashes anyway. Even a natural blonde will usually darken hers with mascara. To speed up the action of bleaching hair, mix three parts bleaching peroxide with one part ammonia. You can also make the solution into a paste by mixing it with a teaspoon of soapflakes.

Lightening action varies with the color of your hair. If you are dark haired, several applications of bleach may be necessary before the hair finally blends with skin tones. Leave each application on for about 15 minutes, or until the soapy paste



Methods for toning the skin and lightening the hair are numerous. Bleaching is quite popular, since it tends to lighten the flesh as well as the hair itself.

dries. Then wash off carefully. Afterward, pat dry, then pat cream over the entire area to soothe it. A solution of cream hair lightener and two parts peroxide can also be used effectively for bleaching hair. Be sure to wash away every trace of bleach and put on plenty of body lotion when you are finished.

METHOD 3: Depilatories — These are chemicals in lotions or cream form that dissolve the hair

shaft below the surface of the skin. They are far from new.

In 1804, a man named Marcus Hymans applied to the British government for a patent for his hair off brew. During the 1800's many women's magazines gave recipes for terrible concoctions that could be made at home. The principal ingredient for most of these was lime, which is so caustic that a lot of skin must have dissolved right along with the hair.

Until quite recently, using depilatories was a smelly affair, and because they had to be strong enough to melt the hair effectively, allergic reactions cropped up in a few people. Today, there are a few good depilatories that can be used safely. The only precautions you need to take are: Heed the instructions on the label. Do not leave a depilatory on too long, and take a patch test before each application. Follow instructions carefully. Because regrowth is slower and softer than razor stubble, hair removal need not be repeated for at least two weeks, or sometimes as long as a month. If you use a depilatory under your arms, avoid putting deodorants there for a day or so. To remove facial hair, be sure to use a depilatory made for the face ONLY, and keep it away from your eyes.

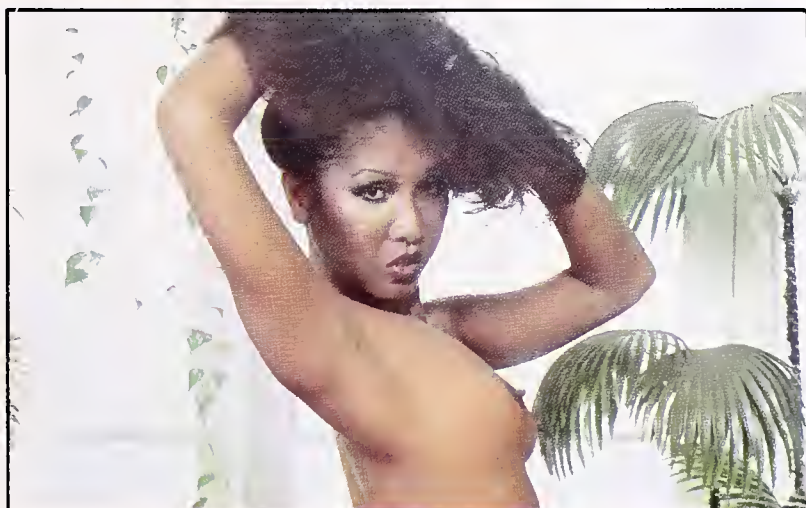
METHOD 4: Electrolysis — This is a permanent and almost completely painless method for removing unwanted hair. It is performed by a skilled technician who inserts a fine needle into each hair follicle and decomposes the base or "root" by means of an electric current. The existing hair is then plucked out and should never grow in again. If done properly, electrolysis is not only permanent but causes the vacant follicle to contract, leaving the skin smooth and practically poreless. If not, and this why skill on the part of the operator is so vital, either the hair will grow in again or the skin will become scarred or pitted. Because it is time consuming and quite expensive, electrolysis is most popular for small areas such as the upper lip, or the chin. Do not use a home electrolysis unit. As I have mentioned, you need a licensed technician. And you, your mirror, and an electric needle are poor substitutes for years of training and experience.

METHOD 5: Epilators — These are waxes that harden on the skin. When you pull them off the hair comes with them, by the roots. You generally have a stick of wax, then you melt it. Cream waxes that come in tubes will harden automatically on the skin. You then wash the area, blot dry, then dust with talcum powder. Then you spread the wax evenly over the skin in the direction that the hair grows. Place strips of gauze or any thin material over and let the wax set until hard, but not brittle. This should take about twenty minutes. Now grab each strip of material and pull off against the direction of hair growth. If waxing is done properly,

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SERENA —
FROM THE
ISLANDS
WITH
LOVE





Serena—a Eurasian and Polynesian beauty from Honolulu who has already amassed trophies as Miss Gay Hollywood, Goddess VII and Sex Symbol of California. We join our lovely Serena at her favorite fashion boutique, Playmates, in Hollywood, California. Serena is no amateur to the world of high fashion, she has been modeling and graciously deceiving genetic females with her art for years.





Serena's heritage is from the Islands, where she learned to love the outdoors. To this day, she maintains a busy outdoor life, horseback riding, swimming and just strolling along the beach. It is her way of relaxing after strenuous performances every night at the C'est La Vie in Hollywood where she delights audiences with her exotic fire and strip show. Working steadily since her arrival in Los Angeles, Serena has begun thinking about the future. She wants a complete sex change operation, and hopes to accomplish that goal within the next few years. Following that, Serena would like to open a wig styling and fashion boutique, a shop that would specialize in that total, Serena look!



Serena has dedicated herself long and hard to that 'total look'. Her stage shows represent a struggle for perfection as the beautiful impressionist gracefully moves from one style to the next, creating a fashion montage of exquisite beauty and sensuality. And during her tour de force, Serena does not abdicate her right to sexuality. She exudes an exotic, heated eroticism that delights her fans.



The looks of Serena are capable of moving from the delicate seductress to the predatory tigress with a simple costume change. Serena has mastered the art of her moods, using her sense of fashion and her self-awareness to create a devastating illusion. Serena's desire for a complete sex-change operation connotes a sincere and vividly real urge to bring that illusion full circle. Like many transsexuals, Serena seeks a complete expression of her femininity, one that encompasses her entire being. It is apparent that our lovely Serena should find success in her future commitments.





all hairs that are enmeshed in the wax should come out by the roots. Regrowth is naturally quite slow with this method. A new hair must begin at the base of each follicle and grow all the way to the skin's surface before it shows. This can take from four to six weeks. A word of caution. Because the



Excess body hair can be removed simply and effectively by shaving. The easiest method involves using a razor, which results in a smooth, finely toned skin.

skin may stay pink or sensitive for several hours afterwards, avoid waxing before a show or applying make-up.

METHOD 6: Shaving — This is the quickest and easiest, and most used way to get rid of superfluous hair, anywhere on the body. It does not coarsen or make it grow any faster. The shaved off ends do, however, turn into stubble in only a few days. Whether you use a safety razor or an electric razor, both methods are good. However, the safety razor gets the closest shave. You get the smoothest results with a safety razor just after a bath. Use an electric razor on skin that is dry or moistened with a special pre-electric shave lotion, but never on wet skin.

METHOD 7: Tweezing — Tweezers are best for shaping eyebrows and banishing single hairs that crop up in unexpected places. But because the skin can stand just so much rough treatment, never pluck large areas in one sitting. To cut down discomfort, apply ice packs to the skin first. Pat

antiseptic lotion or alcohol over the area before and after tweezing to prevent infection and reduce redness. And be sure the tweezers are absolutely clean.

The following are secrets which many professionals have used to create the illusion of nudity, plus new ones which I have developed, which have never been used until now.

First we will discuss what is being used and this consists of one of three ways. A bra is worn (preferably a bra which is designed to push up cleavage) and heavy padding is inserted or hard falsies which are made from compressed foam sewed into a breast shaped cup, and these push the loose flesh around the chest together. Thus giving an illusion that there is more breast inside the bra. A variation of this is to tape several times around the body of the chest area, and when falsies are worn, the exposed area looks quite real. However, it is not usually as effective as the cleavage bra and it has more discomfort than the cleavage bra. Secondly, a flesh colored triangle bra is worn (usually by impersonating strippers) and filled with rice or birdseed. Birdseed is preferred over rice as it slides easier, and is not as heavy as rice. This bra is in the shape of a stripper's bra, and in dimly lit lights many times may look even realistic. Third, is the method used by the professional and amateur alike and these are falsies. The majority use the five and dime variety, or a homemade version made from flesh colored cloth filled with soft foam or rubber. Some even use loose rubber or foam to insert into a bra, or into a gown especially made for inserts. Also in many gowns, falsies are made right into them.

If you are around five feet tall and have a small waist, you will find the following item interesting: A company in Arizona sells a doll molded of high quality vinyl, with a soft skin finish that is like skin. Her measurements are five feet five inches and measures 40-20-40. She is an inflatable body that comes with a removable wig (blonde, brunette or redhead) and a cloth bikini that is also removable and comes with her.

What can be done is to cut the head off and make a slit down the back of the body (that can be resealed with flesh colored tape). Also remove the arms and legs, and you have a nicely proportioned body. However, parts of the body may have to be filled with a foam material to retain its shape. Also the chest can be used by itself if carefully cut out.

An effective illusion bust can be built onto the chest. Before starting the chest should be clean, dry, and free from any make-up. After you have decided about the size of chest you want, pull out flat pieces of cotton, each piece about one to two inches square, and fray the outer edges. You can glue two rubber foam falsies onto your chest with spirit gum, and then cover the falsies with spirit gum. Before it dries, place your first bit of

cotton. Start at the center of your area and let each succeeding piece lap over and build up from the center outward. As each piece of cotton is applied, paint it with spirit gum, using a flat brush about 1/4 to 1/2 inches wide, and brushing each piece from the center outward. Laying one piece of cotton over another suggests a "shingling" design, except that the high point of your area is around the center making a ball-like shape, and tapers gradually outward towards the shoulders. Build up on each breast, leaving a flat surface between them. After your breasts are practically formed, give the entire surface, which is now covered with spirit gum, a coat of flexible collodion. It is advisable to dilute the collodion about 1/2, using either acetone or ether. Remember to brush on the collodion from the center outward, and allow to dry. Your outside area may need a little more building and finishing up with cotton. After doing so, go over the entire area again with collodion, extending it out about a half inch beyond the outline.

You are now ready to give your built bust its proper skin tone. For this purpose use moist under-rouge, and apply it with a brush. Having done this, to "set" the color, cover it with clear talcum powder. After that you may go right ahead with your grease paint foundation. Then powder over the flesh powder to take the shininess away. One reminder, however, in applying your cotton, spirit gum, collodion, under-rouge, and grease paint for the bust: Always do it with a flat brush.

And now, I would like to reveal my own method, which I created and use, and have found it to be the most effective and economical than others used today. The cost of three pairs would run about one dollar and fifty cents. First, select a rubber ball from the dime store figuring to cut it in half and use it for breast cups. Falsie forms that are round in shape and not too soft can also be used. Be careful when cutting the rubber ball, as it has a liquid inside it, and be sure it is dry before using the ball. If you desire a more projecting bust get two balls and instead of cutting them in half cut them only 3/4. Now color the balls with a flexible type paint, a flesh color, or if balls are tan or brownish color, you can leave them that color.

Now comes the hard part. Once you have made a few of them, you will prefer to make a pattern of the material. But, may I add this: that even though this method takes a little work, the results are so satisfying that it is worth it.

For about one dollar you can buy enough material to make about four pairs of busts. The magic material I speak of is called Art-foam. It can be purchased at most 5 & 10 stores and the shade to get is peach. When this shade is on the skin (it blends quite well on light and medium complexions) you can hardly tell it from skin even a few feet away. Why I chose this material is be-

cause it is flexible, it can be formed easily, it is light, and it is the most effective. It is a thin foam material, and by using ordinary clothes dye you can dye this material to match the coloring of your skin. In my diagram, you will see the pattern I use. This pattern will fit any size bust, as the excess will have to be cut away, anyway. After cutting the pattern out, cover the rubber balls only



The illusion is the goal. By employing safe, effective techniques, it is possible to create that illusion without harming the natural qualities of the body.

on the under side, and the sides with foam rubber cement. (This cement is usually sold where Art-foam is sold.) Now take one ball at a time, and form the art-foam material FIRMLY around the ball where the glue is so that it is like a cone shape. However, it should form easily as the art foam softens greatly when the glue is wet on it. You may have to hold it a minute or two, to make sure it stays. Now do the same to the other one. After this is done, let dry for about an hour and then trim off the excess foam that should run from the center to the edge. Be careful not to cut too much away. (A nipple on the bust can be made beforehand by making a cone of foam and gluing it to the ball in the center). Then glue loose edges together. Now what you should have is a flesh colored chest form with breasts. Take a soft brush and rub it lightly in rouge and make circles (about the size of a nickel) on the nipple of each breast and lightly down the center between the breasts so that it gives a shadow depth to them. Be sure that your chest is free from oil or make-up and practice before a mirror holding the false chest to

continued on pg. 46

THE PLAZA SALOON



One of the most unique female impersonator clubs in Los Angeles, a city known for a wide variety of such entertainments, is the Plaza Saloon. Located on the famous La Brea Avenue, the Plaza has quickly become one of the hottest nightclubs in Los Angeles. It is not uncommon on a weekend night to rub elbows with luminaries of the Mexican film industry, as well as some heavyweights from the Hollywood scene. The Plaza specializes in Latin shows, and features impersonators who perform in Spanish.

The original director of the Plaza show is Esteban Coronado, a top performer and model in his own right.





The impressionists of the Plaza Saloon: On the opposite page, top, is the lovely Jacqueline; below is the divine Monica. On this page, top left, is the cast—Monica, Chanel, Jacqueline and Rocio. Below are Esteban and Marmiro, with Chanel, Jacqueline and Melissa. Rocio and Zoila are directly below.



Esteban has gained prestige in the entertainment world through his Las Vegas appearances where he worked with Charo. In Los Angeles, he is respected for his work in producing and directing the show at the Plaza.

Four years ago, the Plaza opened its doors with Esteban at the controls. One of the highlights of that original show was Chanel, a Texas



and the contests are fast becoming 'must attend' events.

With Esteban as director, and his assistant, Mayra, the Plaza Saloon is becoming nationally known for its versatile and entertaining shows, plus its unique Latino theme. In Los Angeles, the Plaza is a must. ●

native whose fantastic impressions of Cher brought down the house. Chanel still does her number at the Plaza, along with Monica, who was also a part of the original cast.

Esteban continually seeks and develops new talent through his studio in downtown Los Angeles, where some of the most talented performers from the Latino community come to study. Esteban takes this raw talent and moulds and forms it until his students are ready to seek a professional career.

The present cast appearing at the Plaza consists of Jacqueline, Melissa, Rocio, Zolia and the other male performers besides Esteban, and Armiro. The shows are staged every weekend, with amateur nights on Wednesday and Thursday evenings. The Plaza also stages a number of contests, including the Mister and Miss Latin America, Mexico and Plaza contests. Contestants participate from all over North America,





Esteban Coronado, director and performer in the Plaza Saloon show is pictured in the upper left on the opposite page. Below is the beautiful Monica, with the legendary Queen Mother VII of Los Angeles, Martina, directly beneath her. Clockwise, beg. at left, are Rocio, Jacqueline, Melissa and finally, an assembly of players: Armiro, Monica, Chanel, Jacqueline, Rocio and Esteban.

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ee, New York City, N.Y.—"My friends say I'm prettier as a woman. I felt so sexy dressing up that I'm certain I will do it again, and again!"



Terri, Chicago, Ill.—"This is my second time in drag. The first was at a fraternity dinner during my college days."



Bobbie, San Francisco, California—"My friends in the community helped me with my costume and make-up. The results surprised even them."

Here is the model release you must send to us with your entry in LES GIRLS' Closet Queen Amateur Photo Contest. Mail to: LES GIRLS, c/o Satellite Enterprises, Ltd., Suite 202, 9350 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, California 90212.

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you from the top. It should hang smoothly and blend in with your skin. Now take spirit gum and paint about 1 2 inch all around the outer edges of the bust with it on the back only. After a few minutes when it has become tacky, take it by the top and stick it to you at the base of your neck across your collar bone. Then press the bottom so that there are no wrinkles, and carefully pull the edges on the side under your arms and stick them. It may take a few times to get the hang of it, but make sure there are no wrinkles. Make sure all the edges are sealed to you and that none are loose. Now stay still for about 15 minutes so that it can dry properly because if you move wrinkles will occur. Once it has dried, you should be able to move your arms in any direction with no wrinkles in the material. The art-foam is extremely flexible and will move with you, giving an illusion it is your skin. A little necklace can be worn to disguise where the neck and the material meet. Proper lighting has much to do with its effectiveness also, so experiment with it on. Sheer material in front of you is always effective for the illusion. You can peel it off carefully and use it over again and should the edges become stiff and hard, trim them off, and with care the illusion bust should last a months time. When a new one is necessary, just peel the art-foam off the rubber balls and you can use them again. You can twirl tassels quite well with this bust and you can even push cleavage together with it. It photographs well, and better yet, it is hard to tell it is not your own.

For a small waist — a shade or two darker than your own make-up shade, in a triangle design blended in, gives a good illusion.

Flesh colored waist cinchers work in some cases and girdles can be used when the waist is covered.

The buttocks can be made larger by using a pantie-girdle that has built-in pads or one that pushes up the buttocks. Also hip pads can be used to make the hips larger (usually made from a foam material) or girdles can be purchased with the pads already in them.

There are several popular methods of concealing the male organs. One is a tight triangle shaped G-string which pulls the organs inside. Another is merely a male jock strap. One method used by the impersonating strippers of today is in using white surgical tape. Here is a method that I use when I wear the illusion bust of mine. I take black electrical tape (I find this to stick better than the surgical tape) and cut about 12 strips about two inches long in advance. Then I take the penis and testicles and push them all into my body. This leaves loose skin, and then I tape both sides of the bulge and put several pieces of black string in the center of the loose skin. This gives the effect of lips, then I take spirit gum and cover the entire

taped area right up to where the loose skin is. Then I cut about an inch of crepe hair (can be obtained at any theatrical supply store in many colors) and put it on the tacky area on the tape. Needless to say, this is another illusion that is quite effective.

For those who need them, or those who think they do, you can order leg pads in light or dark shades at Fredericks of Hollywood, 6610 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood, Calif. 90028. Fredericks also sells hose especially to cover these or any leg problems such as blemishes, scars, birthmarks, vericose veins.

Make-up on the legs, however, can usually cover blemishes and the like and if you care to, you can make your own leg pads. Again I suggest Art-Foam. Cut an oval about 12 inches long and 6 or 7 inches wide. Then make several ovals, slightly smaller, and glue them together with the foam rubber cement. Then with an inch or two of flesh colored tape, tape them to your leg in the hollow area. They can also be glued on with spirit gum if you prefer. Mesh hose corrects many of the imperfections of male legs and they are a general "must" for more feminine looking legs.

Should you have a problem of varicose veins, be sure to get plenty of rest. Lie down often during the day with your feet propped up higher than your head. These veins can easily be damaged and must be protected from bumps and knocks at all times. If your occupation demands that you stand on your feet a great deal, wear support hoisery or light elastic bandages under your pants to relieve pressure and pain. Make-up also can be used to camouflage the veins.

Scars — To conceal ones that are flush with the surface of your skin, use a cover-up stick that blends well with your skin tone. Apply it over foundation, then fluff on powder. If scar tissue has thickened, consult a physician about the possibility of skin grafting. Nose putty can be used to cover obvious scars, in some cases quite well, and in several cases wax has been used.

Should you have a medical problem of any kind, you can write to: American Medical Association, 535 North Dearborn St., Chicago 10, Illinois. They can inform you of a qualified specialist in your vicinity. For a fast reply, be sure to enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope when you write.

Flesh colored material can be made by mixing varying degrees of tintex-being number 31 and Rit-tan number 16, using more beige than tan.

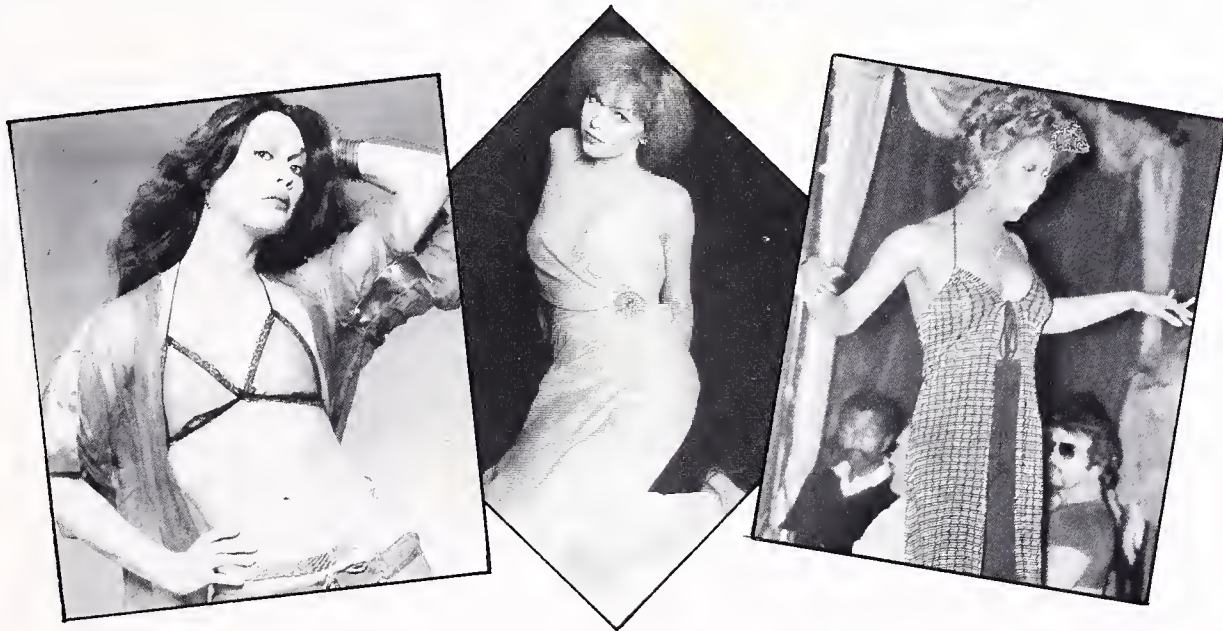
Pink shades of clothes dye can be added if desired. However, the above combination gives an effective "flesh" color to most materials. Art-Foam material can also be dyed with the above combination and with any clothes dye color, also.

Remember, do not be afraid to be creative. A perfect illusion is the ultimate goal. ●

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